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 REPT # \_\_\_\_\_

OCA 87-1000  
 11 March 1987

## MEMROANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing on Soviet Political Developments for  
 The House Democratic Caucus

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1. On 11 March 1987, [redacted], CIA/ANIO/Soviet Union provided a briefing on Soviet political developments for the House Democratic Caucus. The briefing was held in 1537 Longworth House Office Building at 1230 hours. At any one time that were about 12 Members (maximum) present. The following Members are those I could identify:

James H. Scheurer (D., NY)  
 Wes Watkins (D, OK)  
 Patricia Schroeder (D., CO)  
 Don Edwards (D., CA)  
 Sander Levin (D., MI)  
 Leon Panetta (D., CA).  
 Richard Gephardt (D., Mo)

Rob Kurz, Gephardt's staffer, attended parts of the briefing which was conducted while the Members had lunch. The Capitol Hill police provided security for the briefing

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2. [redacted] provided an indepth briefing on political/ecomonic/military/social developments in the Soviet Union. He also discussed certain historical events and illustrated how these impact on current thought in the Soviet Union. He answered questions on arms control matters, areas of support for Gorbachev in the Soviet Union, the likelihood that Gorbachev will be able to achieve his objectives and what he must do to do so. There also was discussion about Gorbachev's plans for Afghanistan. Gephardt left shortly before the briefing ended and while enroute to the door, stopped by to tell me that [redacted] is absolutely terrific".

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4. After most of the Members had departed, Les Watkins and Jim Scheurer stayed to pursue their request for background material (think pieces) and questions for their scheduled trip to the Soviet Union. Earlier, they said that a congressional delegation headed by Jim Wright, and including Tom Foley and Tony Coelho, is scheduled to visit the Soviet Union from circa 14 to 20 April 1987. While there, they expect to meet with ranking Soviet officials and in this regard, requested background material, think pieces and questions which they can use during these contacts. We promised that we would provide this information. We also mentioned that Secretary of State Schultz will be in the Soviet Union from 13 to 16 April and that the Embassy's support mechanisms most likely will be devoted to supporting Shultz's visit.

25X1 5. ACTION REQUIRED: For [ ] to arrange to provide the information requested by Scheuer and Watkins by 30 March 1987.

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House Affairs Branch, OCA

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